



The HIV Epidemic

and Arkansas Students

What is the problem?

The 2005 Youth Risk Behavior Survey indicates that among Arkansas high school students:

Sexual Risk Behaviors

- 54% ever had sexual intercourse.
- 9% had first sexual intercourse before age 13 years.
- 18% had sexual intercourse with ≥ 4 people.
- 41% had sexual intercourse during the past three months.
- 43% did not use a condom during last sexual intercourse. (1)
- 22% drank alcohol or used drugs before last sexual intercourse. (1)

What are the solutions?

Better health education • Healthier school environments

What is the status?

The 2004 School Health Profiles indicates that among Arkansas middle/junior and senior high schools:

Health Education

- Among schools that required health education, 41% required students to take two or more health education courses.
- 22% taught all 10 critical HIV prevention topics in a required health education course.
- 92% taught abstinence as the most effective method to avoid HIV infection.
- 91% taught how HIV is transmitted.
- 24% taught how to correctly use a condom.
- 73% taught how to find valid information or services related to HIV or HIV testing.
- 25% had a lead health education teacher who received staff development on HIV prevention during the past two years.

School Environment

- 45% had a written policy that protects the rights of students or staff with HIV infection or AIDS.

Among schools that had a written policy:

- 97% of the policies addressed procedures to protect HIV-infected students and staff from discrimination.
- 99% of the policies addressed maintenance of confidentiality for HIV-infected students and staff.
- 82% of the policies addressed adequate training for school staff about HIV infection.

1. Among students who had sexual intercourse during the past three months.

Where can I get more information? Visit www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth or call 800-CDC-INFO (800-232-4636).



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

